

**NAVAL ELECTRICAL BRANCH—Opportunity for Certain Officers on the Active, Temporary, Emergency, and Retired Lists of the Royal Australian Navy to apply for transfer thereto, and for certain Officers of the Permanent and Temporary Reserve and Volunteer Reserve, including those already demobilised, to apply for Permanent Commissions in the Electrical Branch of the Royal Australian Navy.**

In Navy Order 196 of 1946, the Naval Board stated that it was intended to establish a Naval Electrical Branch to be responsible for the installation and maintenance of all electrical installations in H.M.A. Ships and Establishments except where special considerations require otherwise, and for operating those electrical equipment's which do not form part of the installations provided for other users.

2. Although many details remain to be determined, additional information is given hereunder of the general scope and prospects, which it is hoped will give sufficient information to prospective applicants for appointment as Officers in this Branch. It is necessary, however, to state that an establishment of officers for the new Electrical Branch has not yet been laid down, that is to say, it has not yet been determined how many officers, either in the aggregate or in the various ranks shall constitute the Branch upon its formation. Accordingly, until this has been done—and arrangements are in train to obtain an establishment at an early date—no actual appointments will be made within the limits of the approved establishment as soon as it is possible to do so.

3. It has been envisaged that the opportunities for promotion in the Electrical Branch will be similar to those in other branches of the Royal Australian Navy.

4. It is intended that the rates of pay for the Naval Electrical Branch will be as laid down in Naval Financial Regulations and Instructions, Articles 18A and 24.

5. *Nature and Scope of Duties of Officers in Electrical Branch.*—The policy will be similar to that laid down in Admiralty Fleet Order 5283 of 1945, paragraphs 4 to 8 inclusive.

7. It has been decided to invite applications for transfer or entry as Officers into the Electrical Branch from the following sources:—

- (a) Officers of the Active, Temporary, Emergency, and Retired Lists of the R.A.N.

- (b) Officers of the permanent and Temporary Lists of the R.A.N.R.(S), R.A.N.R., and R.A.N.V.R., including those officers already demobilised.
- (c) Cadet Entry.
- (d) Promotion of selected ratings from the Lower Deck.
- (e) University graduates with the degree of Bachelor of Electrical Engineering or equivalent.
- (f) Officers with the necessary qualifications *ex* Military and Air Force Services.

8. Applications for transfer to the Electrical Branch will be considered from Navy Officers listed above in the following categories:—

*(a) Officers of the Active, Temporary, Emergency, and Retired Lists of the R.A.N.*

- (i) Executive Officers Qualified in Torpedo, Communications, or Radar. Captains and Commanders who have held one of these qualifications are also eligible for consideration.
- (ii) Officers promoted from Commissioned Gunners (T), Gunners (T), Commissioned Telegraphists, and Warrant Telegraphists, direct to the rank of Lieutenant.
- (iii) Commissioned Gunners (T), Gunners (T), Commissioned Telegraphists, and Warrant Telegraphists and promoted there from.

*(b) Officers of the permanent and Temporary Lists of the R.A.N.R.(S), R.A.N.R., and R.A.N.V.R., including those officers already demobilised.*

- (i) Qualified Electrical Officers.
- (ii) Qualified Torpedo Officers.
- (iii) Qualified Radar Officers.
- (iv) Qualified Wireless Officers.
- (v) Qualified A/S Officers.

*(c) Active or Reserve Officers of any Branch who have electrical qualifications and experience.*

Officers in this category will be selected according to their electrical qualifications and previous experience.

*9. Conditions of transfer for Officers on the Active, Temporary, Emergency, and Retired Lists of the Royal Australian Navy.*

*(I.) Rank and Seniority on transfer.*

All Officers will be transferred in the rank and seniority in which they are serving at the time of transfer, with the following exceptions:—

(i) Seniorities of Active, Emergency, and Retired Officers may be subject to possible modifications.

(ii) Temporary Sub-Lieutenants over the age of 22 years and Lieutenants will be transferred in the rank of Lieutenant (L), and if necessary, will have their seniorities adjusted to ensure their promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Commander (L) on reaching the age of 30 years.

(iii) Temporary Warrant Officers and Temporary Commissioned Warrant Officers will be transferred in their Temporary rank, and those who have not already done so will be required to qualify educationally for Warrant Rank within twelve months of date of transfer. On qualifying educationally and professionally, consideration will be given to adjustment of Seniority, which will be based on previous service in Commissioned or Warrant Rank.

*(II) Existing Electrical Branch.*— Officers of the existing Electrical Branch will automatically be transferred to the new Branch from the date of its interception.

*(III) Temporary Officers,* if they desire, may draw deferred pay accrued up to the date of transfer.

*10. Conditions of transfer for selected Officers on the Permanent and Temporary Lists of the R.A.N.R.(S). R.A.N.R., and R.A.N.V.R.*

(I) The transfer of all Officers will be subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) If under the age of 27, to have at least one year's mobilised service as a Naval Officer in the recent war.
- (b) If over the age of 27, to have at least two year's mobilised service as a Naval Officer in the recent war.
- (c) Seniority of Officers already demobilised may be subject to revision.
- (d) To be physically fit for service in the Royal Australian Navy.
- (e) To be British subjects of European descent.
- (f) To be transferred with the probationary rank and seniority in which they are serving at the time of transfer, except in the cases of Sub-Lieutenants over the age of 22 years, and of Temporary Commissioned Officers from Warrant Rank.

(II.) *The transfer of Officers other than Temporary Warrant Officers and Temporary Commissioned Officers from Warrant rank will be subjected to the following conditions:—*

- (a) Sub-Lieutenants over the age of 22 years will be transferred with the rank of Probationary Lieutenant (L) with seniority to date of time of transfer.
- (b) The age of Officers junior to Lieutenant Commander is generally not to exceed 30 years at the time at the time of applying for transfer, but special cases will be considered on their merits. Lieutenants over the age of 30½ years will be transferred as Probationary Lieutenant-Commanders (L) R.A.N. with seniority of date of transfer antedated by six months for each whole year by which the officer's age exceeds 30½; the maximum antedate granted to be three years.
- (c) Lieutenant-Commanders will be transferred as Lieutenant-Commanders (L) R.A.N. with their

existing seniority, or, if more favourable to the officer, with seniority, antedated as laid down in subparagraph 10 (b) above.

(d) Any acting rank held will be disregarded in determining rank on transfer.

(III.) *The Transfer of Temporary Warrant officer and Temporary Commissioned Officers from Warrant rank will be as laid down in paragraph 9, I (iii) above.*

(IV.) *Subject to satisfactory service during the probationary period.*

Officers transferred in the rank of probationary Lieutenant (L) will have their seniorities adjusted to ensure promotion to Lieutenant Commander by the age of 30 years.

(V.) Deferred pay earned up to the date of transfer may be drawn if desired.

(VI.) Cost of approved alteration to distinctive lace on uniforms will be allowed.

11. *Promotion.*— Except as stated above, promotion of Officers will be made under rules similar to those now in force for Cadet Entry Engineer Officers (K.R. and A.I., Articles 271 to 281) and for Warrant Engineer Classes (A.F.O. 131/45).

12. *Retirement and Retirement Allowances, & c.*—Compulsory age limits will be similar to those now in force for Engineer Officers from Cadet Entry and from Warrant Engineer Officer. Deferred pay as from date of entry to the R.A.N. and other allowances will be paid in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Articles of the Naval Financial Regulations and Instructions.

13. (a) *Application for Transfer:*—Officers of the Active Temporary, Emergency, and Retired Lists of the R.A.N. who wish to be considered for transfer to the Electrical Branch should address applications to their Commanding Officers giving the following details:—

(i) Full name.

(ii) Date of birth.

(iii) Substantive rank and seniority, together with any details of any quasi-permanent or acting rank held.

(iv) Particulars of qualifications, experience, and other matters affecting their suitability for the Electrical Branch.

(b) *Officers of the Permanent and Temporary Lists R.A.N.R.(S), R.A.N.R., and R.A.N.V.R.* (including those already demobilised), who wish to be considered for permanent commissions in the Electrical Branch should address their applications to their Commanding Officers (Officers already demobilised to the Security, Department of Navy, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne), giving the following details :—

- (i) Full name
- (ii) Date of birth.
- (iii) Rank and seniority now held, with a brief record of Naval career as an Officer, giving date commencing reckonable service and courses undergone.  
(Demobilised Officers *ex* temporary lists also to state rank and seniority on termination of their appointments.)
- (iv) Particulars of education, including degrees or other qualifications held.
- (v) Past employment in civil life.

14. It is desirable that these applications should reach the Naval Board as early as practical, and not later than 30th September, 1946.

15. Commanding Officers are to forward applications, together with a report on form A.S.206 as to their opinion of the Officer and his suitability for transfer, to their administrative authority for remarks and onward transmission to the Naval Board.

16 Selection will be made on the basis of qualification, suitability, and age, according to requirements.

17. R.N. and Dominion Officers in the above categories are eligible to apply, but their acceptance will be subject to the agreement of their respective Governments.  
(1937/2/375.)